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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **NAKAMURA, Yoshihiko**

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Serial No.: **10/710,938**

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: **August 13, 2004**

For: **RECORDING MEDIUM DRIVE CAPABLE OF PREVENTING FLEXURE OF BASE  
AND COVER**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 13, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of the document is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

Serial No.: 10/710,938

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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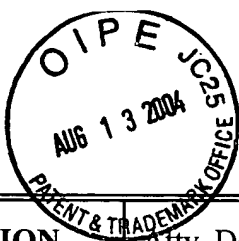
WLB/aoa  
Atty. Docket No. **040383**  
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1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449 and reference (1)



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|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>INFORMATION<br/>DISCLOSURE<br/>CITATION<br/>PTO-1449</b> | Atty. Docket No. <b>040383</b>           | Serial No.: <b>10/710,938</b>    |
|   | Applicant(s): <b>NAKAMURA, Yoshihiko</b> |                                  |
|   | Filing Date: <b>August 13, 2004</b>      | Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned |

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner<br>Initial | Document No. | Name | Date | Class | Subclass | Filing Date<br>(If appropriate) |
|---------------------|--------------|------|------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| _____               | AA           |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| _____               | AB           |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| _____               | AC           |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| _____               | AD           |      |      |       |          |                                 |
| _____               | AE           |      |      |       |          |                                 |

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Document No.      | Date       | Country | Translation<br>(Yes or No) |
|-------------------|------------|---------|----------------------------|
| _____ AF 9-282860 | 10/31/1997 | Japan   | Yes (Abstract only)        |
| _____ AG          |            |         |                            |
| _____ AH          |            |         |                            |
| _____ AI          |            |         |                            |
| _____ AJ          |            |         |                            |

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

|       |    |  |
|-------|----|--|
| _____ | AK |  |
| _____ | AL |  |

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| Examiner | Date Considered |
|----------|-----------------|